

MoDOT Minute

Getting you where you're going quickly and safely – that's the goal of MoDOT's new Driving Edge program. Electronic message boards have been put up along Interstates 70 and 44 to send instant messages about travel conditions. An online map provides work zone information, highway closings and weather-related road conditions. And MoDOT's toll free number – 888-ASK-MODOT – will now be answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week by a live person.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has announced that Interstate 70 is among six nationwide in its "Corridors Of The Future" program. The program will look at innovative ways to reduce congestion and improve freight delivery. It calls for the I-70 corridor through Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio to add four dedicated truck lanes. The states will receive \$5 million for the study.

A recent survey showed 77 percent of Missourians are buckling up, well below the national average of 81 percent. For teens, the number is even lower: 61 percent. Approximately 69 percent of the 1,096 people who died in Missouri traffic crashes in 2006 were not wearing a seat belt.